

APPLICANTS: ILAN, Gabriel et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/674,710
FILED: January 29, 2000
Page 6

REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 8-19 and 21-33 are pending in the application and have been rejected. Claims 25 and 33 have been amended.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 8-15, 17, 19, 21-27, 29 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Garthwaite et al. (US Patent 6,124,826).

As argued in the Interview and in the Response After Final, Garthwaite's items 3 and 5 may be two different inputs to the control unit integrated in item 2; however, Garthwaite et al. describes them in operation **either** for handwriting input **or** for voice input but never for both types of inputs at the same time.

Claim 33 has now been amended to recite "controlling at least one appliance within a vehicle with at least one signal generated from combined consideration of both a voice input and a handwritten input." Claim 25 has been amended with similar language.

Garthwaite et al. does not show utilizing both types of input at the same time. Moreover, Garthwaite et al. does not show utilizing a "combined consideration of both" types of input.

APPLICANTS: ILAN, Gabriel et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/674,710
FILED: January 29, 2000
Page 7

Garthwaite et al. states, in the only paragraph that mentions both handwritten and voice input (the remainder of the text assumes that the input is from a keyboard):

"In further development of the invention, the output unit 5 is also embodied as the input unit 3. In this embodiment of the navigation device, the target position is input by marking or handwritten input on the display. A special electronic input pen is provided for this purpose, which in itself is known. Alternately, the output unit 5 can be designed for voice output through a loudspeaker, while the input unit 3 can be designed for voice input through a microphone." (Col. 3, lines 51 - 59)

Nowhere in the quoted text does Garthwaite et al. show utilizing both types of input at the same time. Moreover, nowhere in the quoted text does Garthwaite et al. teach nor suggest utilizing a "combined consideration of both" types of input. The two types of inputs are presented in the alternative ("Alternately, the output unit 5 ...")

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that amended independent claims 25 and 33 are allowable. Claims 8 – 15, 17, 19, 21 – 24, 26, 27 and 29 depend from, directly or indirectly, claim 25 and therefore, include all the limitations of that claim. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 8 – 15, 17, 19, 21 – 24, 26, 27 and 29 are likewise allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to amended independent claims 25 and 33 and to claims 8 – 15, 17, 19, 21 – 24, 26, 27 and 29 dependent thereon.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 16 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Garthwaite as applied to claim 25.

Garthwaite has been discussed above. That discussion, in which the allowability of claims 25 was shown, is applicable here. Claims 16 and 30, dependent from claim 25, are also allowable.

APPLICANTS: ILAN, Gabriel et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/674,710
FILED: January 29, 2000
Page 8

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 18, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Garthwaite as applied to claim 25 and further in view of Obradovich (US 6,282,464)

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established.

The combination of Garthwaite and Obradovich does not teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 25, nor does it teach or suggest all the limitations of dependent claims 18, 31 and 32. Garthwaite has been discussed above. That discussion is applicable here. Obradovich does not show "wherein both of said voice and handwritten inputs are considered in combination with each other" as recited in claim 25, and therefore cannot cure the deficiencies of Garthwaite et al. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection should be withdrawn.

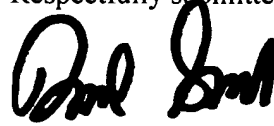
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

APPLICANTS: ILAN, Gabriel et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/674,710
FILED: January 29, 2000
Page 9

Favorable action on this amendment and petition is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel J. Swirsky
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 45,148

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ALPHAPATENT ASSOCIATES LTD.
P.O.B. 2345
BEIT SHEMESH, ISRAEL 99544
TEL. (US) 516-620-4573
FAX. (US) 800-243-2384
dswirsky@alphapatent.com